Press release

Vice President Teresa Ribera inaugurates Spain's first industrial renewable hydrogen plant in Lloseta (Mallorca)

- The President of the Balearic Government, Francina Armengol and the Vice President Juan Pedro Yllanes took part in the opening ceremony, and Teresa Ribera was accompanied by the Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, Reyes Maroto
- The Power to Green Hydrogen Mallorca Project, spearheaded by Enagás and ACCIONA Energía and in which IDAE and CEMEX also participate, has already produced the first hydrogen molecules in December 2021
- Lloseta green hydrogen industrial plant will help position Spain as the benchmark renewable hydrogen hub in southern Europe
- The project is part of the European Green Hysland initiative, the first renewable hydrogen initiative from a Mediterranean country to receive European funding

Madrid, 14 March 2022. The Third Vice President of the Government of Spain and Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Teresa Ribera, has inaugurated in Lloseta (Mallorca) the first industrial renewable hydrogen plant in Spain, as part of the Power to Green Hydrogen Mallorca project, spearheaded by Enagás and ACCIONA Energía, with the participation of IDAE and CEMEX.

The opening ceremony was attended by the President of the Balearic Government, Francina Armengol, the Vice President of the Balearic Government, Juan Pedro Yllanes, the Chairman of ACCIONA and ACCIONA Energía, Jose Manuel Entrecanales, the CEO of Enagás, Arturo Gonzalo, and the Executive Director of the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking, Bart Biebuyck.

The Vice President was accompanied by the Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, Reyes Maroto, and the Director General of IDAE, Joan Groizard, and also attended by the Chairman of CEMEX EMEA, Sergio Menéndez Medina, the CEO of ACCIONA Energía, Rafael Mateo, the CEO of Redexis, Fidel López Soria, and Sabina Fluxá, Vice President and CEO of the Iberostar Group.

Start-up of the Lloseta Plant

Last December, the plant began start-up tests, generating the first renewable hydrogen molecules and thus positioning itself as the first industrial-scale green hydrogen generation project in Spain.

The industrial production of renewable hydrogen at the plant will be carried out gradually and as the infrastructures and equipment for its consumption are available within the project subsidised by the European Union Green Hysland, of which Power to Green Hydrogen Mallorca is part.

Press release

The Green Hysland project, coordinated by Enagás, supports the deployment of the infrastructures required to build a renewable hydrogen ecosystem on the island of Mallorca, and helps to achieve the environmental goals set by the Balearic Government in the islands. The European Union has committed 10 million euros to its implementation through the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking.

This European investment, which is in line with the new EU Hydrogen Strategy and the Spanish Government's "Hydrogen Roadmap: a commitment to renewable hydrogen", represents the second largest grant awarded by this organisation to a green hydrogen project and the first to a Mediterranean country.

In the words of the Vice President of the Government and Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Teresa Ribera, "this pioneering project inaugurates a technological development that will be very relevant in the coming years, to replace gas of fossil origin with renewable gases, such as biogas, biomethane, and hydrogen obtained with renewable energies. Thanks to these advances, which we are promoting with the PERTE ERHA, we will reduce our dependence on hydrocarbon imports, we will offer a solution for the decarbonisation of sectors that are difficult to electrify, such as industry or heavy transport, and we will create new companies and new jobs in quality. Now, more than ever, we must activate all the springs to gain energy sovereignty, and renewable energies are going to play a decisive role. And among them, hydrogen constitutes a strategic bet for the country".

The President of the Balearic Government, Francina Armengol, has emphasized that "with this project, the Balearic Islands continue to be at the forefront of the energy transition in Spain and continue to set the pace just as they did with pioneering regulations such as the waste law, which abolished single-use plastics, or the exchange law climate". In addition, the president has defended the Power to Green project as an example "of the transformation of the economic and social model that the islands are promoting, a more diverse, more resilient and more sustainable model".

According to Arturo Gonzalo, CEO of Enagás, "in the current global context, a project like Power to Green Hydrogen Mallorca makes more sense than ever as an example of public-private collaboration to contribute to decarbonisation and a just transition, and also to reduce energy dependency. The production in Mallorca of the first renewable hydrogen molecules marks a milestone in Spain and in Europe as a pioneer project of the Green Hysland initiative".

ACCIONA's Chairman and CEO, Jose Manuel Entrecanales, pointed out that "green hydrogen is an industrial and economic opportunity for Spain and Europe. The public-private partnership in this project and the support of the different administrations is a reference model of how to take advantage of this opportunity. The Mallorca project will allow the maturing of a technology and an economic model based on renewable hydrogen to make a qualitative leap in decarbonisation."

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Bart Biebuyck, Executive Director of the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking, added: "the project Green Hysland on the island of Mallorca is a perfect example of how hydrogen and fuel cell technology can effectively contribute to the decarbonisation of European islands. With our support of 10 million Euro, we are proud to see the first Hydrogen ecosystem in Southern Europe becoming a reality and are convinced that it will serve as a blueprint for similar Hydrogen valleys across Europe".

Electrolyser now operational

As a core part of the project, the electrolyser that produces renewable hydrogen has already completed technical commissioning tests. Once fully operational when the infrastructure deployment for its consumption is completed, it will produce at least 300 tonnes of renewable hydrogen per year.

The renewable electricity needed to power the electrolyser will be guaranteed by the photovoltaic plants of Lloseta (8.5 MW) and Petra (5.85 MW). The GreenH2Chain platform, developed by ACCIONA Energy, will use blockchain technology to prove that the hydrogen obtained at the plant is 100% renewable.

Use of green hydrogen in Mallorca

Once the green hydrogen ecosystem in Mallorca is fully implemented, the goal is to reduce the island's CO_2 emissions by up to 21,000 tonnes per year. Part of the green hydrogen will be transported through the first hydroduct in Spain, which Redexis will build on the island, and can be injected into the natural gas distribution network the company has in Palma de Mallorca, thus contributing to decarbonisation of island consumption. The administrative processing phase is currently being completed and the company will be able to start construction in the second quarter of the year.

Green hydrogen will have multiple applications on the island of Mallorca, such as supplying clean fuel to bus fleets, generating heat and electric power for commercial and public buildings, and creating a refuelling station.

The business sector is also joining the deployment of this clean energy ecosystem with agreements such as the one reached with the Iberostar hotel group to replace part of its natural gas consumption with renewable hydrogen.

Other industrial economic sectors, mobility, public and private entities will foreseeably join the use of this renewable energy, strengthening the renewable energy project of Mallorca, as well as the reindustrialisation of Lloseta and its surroundings with projects compatible with existing activities.

Mallorca is in an ideal position to develop the first renewable hydrogen hub in Southern Europe, thus becoming the first European example of an island economy based on green hydrogen.

Press release

Social Impact Management Programme

The project is accompanied by a Social Impact Management Programme in the plant's surroundings. Among the actions already carried out is the donation of 44 photovoltaic modules to the Lloseta City Council for municipal self-consumption.

Power to Green Hydrogen Mallorca will also develop a social investment strategy based on education, the promotion of the local economy and innovation, which includes informative visits and open days, as well as a series of calls to be launched after the summer to receive proposals for social projects that emanate from the needs of the population.